Pastor’s Message

Happy New Year!

It’s 2018 already, Wow! A time for new teachings, new studies, and new adventures. I asked several people: What would you like to do in 2018? Would you want to do a church-wide Bible study? Where would you want to be at the end of 2018? I asked these questions because I heard so many speak about when Peace did “40 days of Purpose” study in small groups. I heard from several people say “Could we study Revelation?” Yes, we could study the book Revelation.

But the question is: what does God want for Peace Lutheran Church, myself and all the people who would be part of the congregation and the ministries?

As I write this, I am in Georgia preparing to come home. I have had a wonderful few days with my Daughter, my Son in law and my Grandchildren. What about them and all the children and young adults? What is their future? When I came up here, I had a word from the Lord to take them to a church that God would show me. I heard Saturday morning. “It was not far to the south-east.” I searched on the internet and found three that were close. Two seemed not to fit; the third was called Expedition Church. We attended that church on Sunday. They had a guest preacher a young man, age 21, who was going on mission trips around the south-east visiting churches and ministries. He delivered a beautiful message of how to be a witness for Christ and the mandate of the Great Commission. I was impressed. I asked him if he was in Melbourne or close to look me up.

As I reflect and pray for Peace and the Ministries, I heard a small voice saying I have seven years to complete the Vision He has given me. “The Tapestry Vision.” Then many thoughts and pictures began to flow through my mind. Steps and plans for me and daily activities.

Peace Lutheran Church is a big part of the Vision as well as The Tapestry Center, the Tapestry. He showed me that Peace would grow to be a significant influence in Palm Bay. I asked, How should I approach this with those who are to be part? “Put it in the newsletters. Speak about it to those who are already called and invite those who I will show you.” Now I know this sounds a little out of the norm, and maybe not. But it is vital that Peace Lutheran and its members understand what God has me doing because PLC is what’s called a Portal between Heaven and Earth. It is a Kingdom Gate that God is going to use for His Glory.

I will say this is the scope of what He has shown me and how He will change Brevard County forever and many people will know that God has done His work in Brevard County. There is so much more to come; I cannot put it all here in this writing. You all do need to know that I have recognized and received this mandate from the Lord and will follow through to best of my ability.

Pray and Obey
Pastor Paul Rosbury
In Christ, God sees us clearly, through and through, in spite of all our faults and failings, loving us nonetheless. This is the heart of the gospel, unmerited grace! We can’t do a single thing to earn it—it simply IS. And because we are claimed by this love that “will not let us go” this assurance frees us to stop counting up points (it’s not a competition!) and instead to focus our response on practicing love. For no matter how gifted we are, as individuals or as a community, those gifts won’t mean anything if we fail to communicate the unconditional love of God.

Perhaps you know someone who is particularly gifted at loving. Have you ever wondered how they do it? How they show it? What you can learn from them? This is a season for turning our thoughts toward the light and toward those whom we recognize as light-bringers. I’m reading a book right now that follows a family in Warsaw during World War II. The book, The Zookeeper’s Wife, by Diane Ackerman, is based on the journals of Antonina Zabinski who, with her husband Jan, was a caretaker of the world class Warsaw Zoo when the war began. It follows their harrowing journey through the loss of the zoo’s rare animals during the initial German blitzkrieg, their care for surviving animals of the two-legged as well as four-legged kind, their efforts to feed and harbor friends and strangers, Jew and non-Jew alike, and their connection to the Polish Underground resistance, all while raising their young son Rys and bearing a second child, a daughter Teresa. It’s a remarkable story, and one in which, time and time again, is striking by how big Antonina’s heart is, how ripe to take risks for others despite her fear, and how large her capacity is to love. In the end, around 300 people survived the Nazi occupation of Warsaw due to the Zabinski’s advocacy and provision of safe-haven.

As we begin a new year, there’s plenty of evidence amongst us and in the world that hate is alive and well. But Paul’s testimony is that the love with which God loves us, “bearing all things, believing all things, hoping all things, enduring all things,” will never end. As we see such love bursting forth and refracting in Jesus’s life and ministry, how can we resist following?

Spreading His love,
Pastor Curt

Call Committee Update:
Initial interviews with our five most qualified candidates are complete. All but one are LCMC certified pastors with master’s degrees in theology and presently lead Lutheran congregations.

We’ve requested video-recorded sermons and will accomplish video conference/in-person interviews and reference/background checks with 2-3 final candidates through December early January.

We anticipate making our final recommendation to the congregation in Jan 2018.

“Where no counsel is, the people fall; but in the multitude of counselors, there is safety.” - Proverbs 11:14
As many of you have heard, I submitted my resignation to the council last month, effective December 31, 2017. It has been a blessing for me to serve this congregation for the last 5 years. I have appreciated your support over this time more than you could ever know. But it’s time for a change.

I view this position as having three separate components reporting to the Treasurer:

1. Bookkeeper – Pay bills, reconcile accounts and prepare monthly reports for the Treasurer
2. Payroll Administrator – submit payroll bi-weekly and make adjustments to the system where necessary.
3. Counter supervisor – Ensure training and adequate supply of counters for weekly contributions. This position is currently filled by Faye Schill

The council is looking to hire a bookkeeper to take over many of my responsibilities at a cost that I consider unreasonable given our current financial position. It is time for volunteers to take over the positions of treasurer, bookkeeper and Payroll administrator.

Bookkeeper: It would be especially beneficial for someone with computer skills to act as the bookkeeper to pay the monthly bills and input the data into our Power Church program. The Bookkeeper may have to come to the office from time to time to take care of paper bills of which there are few. This activity can be managed at home with personal computer equipment.

The Payroll Administrator can handle their responsibility from home as the payroll system is automated and online. This can actually be automated now further reducing the time needed.

I would be happy to make myself available for training and assistance, but, the bottom line is that someone needs to stand up and volunteer for these positions or the council will have no choice but to hire a bookkeeper at the churches expense.

The Treasurer’s role then becomes the focal point for the three positions and directly reports to council. The treasurer would oversee insurance policies to make sure we are in good stead as well as any other financial issue that comes up.

Time spent is really up to you. Over the past four months I have been averaging 1 to 2 hours a week doing the bookkeeper and Payroll jobs together. The position of Payroll Administrator will take less than an hour every other week. Bookkeeper possibly 1 to 2 hours a week (most from the comfort of their homes) with 1-3 hours at the end of the month preparing monthly reports to the council for the treasurer.

Don Hoffman

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We Worship

Psalm 100:4 (NKJV)
Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise.
Be thankful to Him, and bless His name.

Minister in Music—Lorry Held
Praise Band
Contemporary Service 9:00 AM
Rehearsal—Monday’s 6:30PM

Psalm 100
Shout with joy to the Lord, all the earth!
worship the Lord with gladness.
Come before him, singing with joy.

In the Peace Band, we practice so we can lead the praise of
His people as we worship Him together on Sunday morning.
Loud or soft, fast or slow, many types of music are appropriate
for praise.

Hoping you keep singing!

Minister in Music—Cindy Wagman
Traditional Service 11:00 AM
Chancel Choir
Bells of Peace
Rehearsal—Wednesday’s 7:00PM

The Traditional music department
provides music for the 11:00am
services and special services
throughout the year.

The Bells of Peace practice and provides preludes for
the Traditional service and special services throughout
the year.

Carolyn Richard
Mona Sprague
Lucy Foss
Susan Hildebrand
Sally Cooper
Rosemary Good
Deborah Hoffman
Gwen Newberry
Joe Rizzo
Martha Marsh
Carolyn Richard
Martha Marsh
Frank Meier
June Trotter
Jo Ann Perry
Gary Schultz
Ryan Dasinger

“For I will restore you to health and I will heal you of
your wounds, declares the LORD”  Jeremiah 30:17a

January Anniversaries

LEINTHALL, William & Becky (16) 01/05
PELLECCHIA, Rick & Henrietta (50) 01/20
NEUMANN, Ed & Terry (53) 01/30
JAMES, Katie & Ryan (14) 01/31
RUSCOE IV, Robert & Yvonne Burns (17) 01/31

Kowing, Jr., Richard 01/09
SANDBERG, Roger 01/15
ANDERSON, Sherry 01/18
THOMPSON, Lona 01/18
ARNDT, Steven 01/21
EGGERT, Marlene 01/21
MITCHELL, Ronald 01/24
AMBROSE, Brenna 01/27
SANDBERG, Connor 01/28
BARNETT, Yonna 01/30
We hope all our church members and families were blessed with a joyous Christmas. May each of us look forward a New Year to grow and share the love of our Lord with others. As we begin a New Year, we reflect on the past and seek to correct our weaknesses. As God's children we do not have to do this alone.

John 16:13 tells us "When the spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own, but tell you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future."

Romans 15:2-5 tells us "We should help others do what is right and build them up in the Lord. For even Christ did not live to please himself. As the Scriptures say, "The insults of those who insult you O God have fallen on me". Such things were written in the Scriptures long ago to teach us. And the Scriptures give us hope and encouragement as we patiently wait for God's promises to be fulfilled."

We're looking forward to opportunities for our members to continue adult study and reach out to spread God's word to our community. God has given us the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is our hope and dream that each of you will use your spiritual gifts and talents to help us with this mission.

The Children's Church attendance during our 9:00 A.M. service has been few in numbers. Our ability to use audio-visual materials has increased our children's interest in the lessons. We've invited thirty-five families to our Thanksgiving Eve and Christmas Eve Services,. These families indicated that they did not have a church home at our Trunk or Treat event.

Let's give a special Peace welcome to these new families that attend our service. The adult Sunday School has about nine people attending weekly. Pastor Curt and Paul Shwiner have been working with our youth group that has grown to eight students. Carolyn Richard and Joy McVay continue to help and instruct our seven confirmation students. Pastor Paul is planning a church-wide Bible study. Several small groups are also meeting at various times. We hope you will consider attending or helping with some of our educational opportunities as one of your New Year's Resolutions.

Blessings and Peace,
Henrietta Pellecchia, Jack Wilson, Richard Dixon, Carolyn Richard, Joy McVay, Pastor Curt and Pastor Rosbury


Extra! Extra!

**Computers and Networking**

Steve Pooran is Peace Lutheran's Church new Computer and Network Coordinator!

Steve will be working to get our computers and networking up running smoothly and efficiently during Sunday services and special events.

If you would like to be apart of this great ministry, please contact Steve at: stevepooran@yahoo.com or call him at (321)574-0495.

**Calling & Caring Ministry**

Our team visits people who are in the hospital, nursing homes, and who are homebound. The rewards that we all receive are much greater than what we give.

Please prayerfully consider joining our team, especially for the Summer months, since two couples are gone up North to visit their families. Contact the church office or call Terry Neumann if you can give a little of your time to the sick and lonely. It will be greatly appreciated and your rewards will be great.
The Peace Lutheran Church (PLC) “Youth Connect” is our youth ministry for the next generation. Our discipleship strategy with our youth is a vision of “partnering to see the next generation come to faith in Christ and follow Him in their daily lives.” If you are between the age of 11-16, we hope you consider joining us.

**Location:** We now meet in the Youth Room every-other week (twice each month) beginning **Wednesday, January 17, 2018.** Also, look for us soon on Facebook Messenger as the means for communicating.

**January Events:**

*Youth Sunday Service Day* - January 28th – Singing in the band / choir, prayers of the day, participate in communion, ushering, acolytes

*Trip to Andretti Park*—(TBD - Jan. 19, 20, or 21)

*Discussion Studies that help in daily living* (e.g., What is a friend?)

**Broader Initiative:** PLC is leading the way to forming a local Luther League, joining with Lutheran churches around the South Brevard area to help, to guide, and to foster kids’ relationship with the Lord and each other. Stay tuned for more information and events about the formation of the local Luther League.

**This month’s Youth Connect Message:** We are creating experiences with youth and families to foster spiritual growth. This month we’re focusing on 3 ways parents, family, and friends, can leave a legacy of faith for our kids.

If you are like us, the pace at which we live our lives can present a real challenge to parenting. You know, spinning plates makes for an entertaining carnival act, but as a way to live our lives, it’s far less than amusing! Still, this is an appropriate illustration for how so many parents live. We face many competing priorities as parents. We want our children to do well in school, develop meaningful relationships, experience meaningful activities and hobbies, and grow in their faith. And so we try diligently to keep the many areas of their lives spinning. We give most attention to the areas that seem most vulnerable, but in doing so, some key areas of their lives end up wobbling and are in danger of crashing.

We may invest countless hours into our children’s education, their sport’s activities, cheerleading or dance classes, and music lessons, but when it comes to the priority of passing along a legacy of faith to our kids, we too often allow circumstances and chance to affect how we manage our family life and especially that of our high calling as parents to pass a legacy of faith to our children.

Most Christian parents agree on the importance of passing on a legacy of faith to their children. Still, acknowledging its importance is often disconnected from the real-life understanding of what to do in order to accomplish the goal. Over the years, There are three areas that will help parents pass on their faith to their kids, and they’re centered on Deuteronomy 6:4-9, also known as the Shema, which reads,
“Hear, O Israel, the Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all of your heart, and with all of your soul, and with all of your strength. These commandments that I give you today are to be written upon your own hearts, but impress them on your children. Talk about them when you sit at home and when you lie down and when you get up. Tie them as symbols on your hands and bind them on your foreheads. Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.”

What we find in this passage is the Biblical model for transferring our faith to our children. The following three keys are valuable reminders, giving us motivation to focus more intentionally on the principles of passing along a legacy of faith to our kids:

1. **Be an example of loyalty to God.** The Shema reminds us that there is one God and He is holy. We are to love God with our entire being: with heart, soul, and strength. As parents, this goes to the heart of the matter: Do our kids observe our loyalty to God? We simply cannot pass on a faith that we do not have to our kids. We set the pace. We are our children’s role models for faith and loyalty to God. Remember, our own actions will often speak louder than our words!

2. **Demonstrate your faith.** The Shema instructs us to “impress them [the commandments] on your children.” Parents are to impress the faith that God has placed in their life into their kids. It’s all about transference. With all of the great children and youth programs within churches today, many parents allow churches to “take the wheel” when it comes to their kids’ spiritual development, while they take a more passive role. But guess what? According to the Shema, God specifically places the responsibility for nurturing a child’s spiritual development on parents – not the church!

Here are some practical ideas on how parents can take the lead in transmitting faith to kids:

* **Pray regularly with your kids.** Pray at dinner. Pray at bedtime. Prayer is a way to acknowledge God’s presence in your family and in your life. By praying regularly with your kids, you teach your kids that we rely upon God and need His presence in our lives.

* **Worship as a family.** For most of us, this means worshipping together at church on Sundays. Unfortunately, too often, churches have split up the family when it comes to worship time. Take the initiative to make sure there are regular times when your family experiences worship together.

* **Teach your kids.** This can be as simple as having a daily or weekly family devotional or Bible-reading time. We don’t think it’s a time to preach and lecture, but we think it’s time for us to do something that’s inspirational and spiritual. Use a devotional guide or make something up on your own. The key is to experiment and find something that works for your family.

3. **Remind Your Kids of God’s Importance.** The way we remind our kids of God’s importance is when we talk about it at home. There are many ways and opportunities to do this. The goal is that faith becomes a natural part of our kids’ lives instead of just saying, “Okay, faith is what we do on Sunday and Wednesday.” So, don’t isolate spiritual discussions from the daily ebb and flow of our lives.

There’s nothing more important as a parent than leaving an enduring spiritual legacy for your kids! Making a commitment to help grow your family members into all that God wants them to be should be a top priority. Do all you can to keep this plate spinning!

In His love,

Paul Shwiner / Pastor Curt
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<td>9:00 AM Worship</td>
<td>12:00 PM AA Meeting</td>
<td>5:00 PM Call Committee Meeting</td>
<td>12:00 PM AA Meeting</td>
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<td>10:10 AM Sunday School</td>
<td>6:30 PM FEAANAA Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Via de Cristo</td>
<td>7:00 PM Via de Cristo</td>
<td>7:00 PM Food Pantry</td>
<td>6:00 PM Never Alone</td>
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<td>11:00 AM Worship</td>
<td>8:30 PM FEAANAA Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Council Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Council Meeting</td>
<td>9:25 PM Panera Pickup</td>
<td>9:25 PM Panera Pickup</td>
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<td>12:00 PM AA Meeting</td>
<td>7:00 PM Women’s Vis de Cristo</td>
<td>7:00 PM Stamp Club FH</td>
<td>7:00 PM Stamp Club FH</td>
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<td>8:30 PM Blue Grass Gospel Jam</td>
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<td>5:00 PM Confirmation Class</td>
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<td>6:30 PM Youth Group</td>
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Did you know? Instead of writing multiple checks for individual contributions like the Children’s Hunger Project, the Food Pantry, the GAP, etc., you only have to write one check. Simply designate the breakdown of your giving in the check’s memo area or on the envelope itself. “FP” for Food Pantry, “CHP” for Children’s Hunger Project, “GAP” for the Gap, and so on. Thank you for your contributions!

DONATE YOUR GLASSES AND HEARING AIDS!
If you have old glasses or hearing aids that you do not use any longer, please bring them to the Narthex. There is a recycle box from the Lions Club on the table!

Yes, please help us keep our list of military personnel up-to-date! Call or e-mail the office with any changes in status, rank, or location! Thank you!

E.J. Alcario, Iraq
John Bedford, Iraq
Tech Sgt., Keisha Moe, Fort Bragg, NC
James Faircloth, Civilian Gov’t Contractor, Military Support—Texas
Tim Faircloth, USAF, Shreveport, LA
Ryan Faircloth, USAF, South Korea
Kristen Hall AF, Iraq
Sgt. Jamie Dorsett, USMC (Rsv), NC
Capt. Brian Nailing, Co. Ft. Hood, TX

SFC Paul Butler, Colorado Springs, CO
Lt Col Freddy Koegler, Washington, D.C.
Maj. AD Dennis Peoples, Rock Island Arsenal, IL
Cpt. Nathan Schill, Ft. Jackson, SC
USN FC3 Stephen Weaver, USS Dewey
AIC Austin Cundiff, Keesler AFB, MS
Joe Trammell, Amy, Ft. Campbell, KY
Navy Chief Sean Patrick Goguen, Norfolk, VA
LTJG Laura Towle, Kings Bay, GA
1st Lieut. Tanner Johnson—Army, E. Africa
We Serve

**Altar Guild**—Set up and prepare for communion each week, usually serving one month at a time; more people are needed.

**Worship Servants**—Sunday Worship Assistants and Communion Assistants are needed.

**Office Helpers**—Those who help with mailings, preparing Welcome Packets, etc.

**Chancel Choir**—Sing to the Lord at 11 am each Sunday, practice 7 pm Wednesday evenings.

**Bell Choir**—Call Cindy Wagman to learn more about our choirs 676-3849.

**Peace Band**—Practice at 7 pm on Thursday evenings. Come and try out.

**Money Counters**—Teams of two people working for one month at a time. Call church office if interested.

**In the Nursery**—Betty Sheller is our Nursery Attendant in the nursery for your children. If you are a parent leaving your children in the nursery during services you are welcome to join with them in caring for our little ones during worship.

**Work Groups**—There is always plenty of work to be done here. Please contact Steve Barnett.

**Projectionists Needed**—People that are in the projection room Sunday morning for our Sunday presentations. Please sign up in the projection room.

**Panera Bread Pick-up**—Each Friday evening people are needed to go to Hammock Landings to get the goodies for Sunday morning Café Peace. Cindy Wagman at 676-3849

Please call the office to be a servant for the Lord by taking on one or more of these opportunities.

(321)727-3131

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**Publicity and Advertising**

We are asking the Lord for someone who can manage our social media: Facebook, website, Twitter and compose and send announcements with press releases to the media.

Will train.